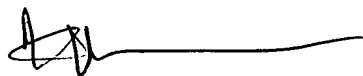


received in our office 11 April 2002. The German Search Report is less than three months old, and as such, the references cited herein should be considered as provided for under 37 CFR 1.97C.

Respectfully,



Attorney for Applicant

Kevin J. Moriarty  
Reg. No. 31,045  
Deere & Company  
Patent Department  
One John Deere Place  
Moline, IL 61265  
(309) 765-4048

KJM/cmw

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